

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. An apparatus, comprising:
2 a housing;
3 a power supply enclosed in the housing; and
4 a bus hub enclosed in the housing.
- 1 2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the bus hub further comprises an upstream
2 port.
- 1 3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the bus hub comprises;
2 at least one downstream port to connect to at least one downstream device.
- 1 4. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the bus hub is self powered.
- 1 5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the bus hub is bus powered.
- 1 6. The apparatus of claim 2, further comprising:
2 a hub repeater connected to the upstream port.
- 1 7. The apparatus of claim 2, further comprising:
2 a downstream receptacle connected to both the power supply and the bus hub.
- 1 8. The apparatus of claim 7, further comprising a cable connected to the
2 downstream receptacle, wherein the cable further comprises:
3 a device power wire;
4 a device ground wire;
5 a computer power wire;
6 a computer ground wire; and
7 a plurality of signal wires.

- 1 9. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the plurality of signal wires further
2 comprises a signal twisted pair.
- 1 10. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the plurality of signal wires further
2 comprises a fiber optic channel.
- 1 11. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the power supply further comprises an
2 alternating current to direct current converter.
- 1 12. A computing unit, comprising:
2 a computer comprising:
3 an upstream receptacle to deliver data signals to the computer,
4 a power receptacle to deliver electrical power to the computer; and
5 a power hub coupled to the upstream receptacle and the power receptacle via a
6 cable, wherein the power hub comprises:
7 a housing,
8 a power supply enclosed in the housing, and
9 a bus hub enclosed in the housing.
- 1 13. The computing unit of claim 11, wherein the cable further comprises:
2 a device power wire;
3 a device ground wire;
4 a computer power wire;
5 a computer ground wire; and
6 a plurality of signal wires.
- 1 14. The computing unit of claim 13, wherein the plurality of signal wires
2 comprises a twisted pair.

- 1 15. The computing unit of claim 13, wherein the plurality of signal wires
2 comprises a fiber optic channel.
- 1 16. The computing unit of claim 12, wherein the bus hub further comprises an
2 upstream port.
- 1 17. The computing unit of claim 12, wherein the bus hub further comprises;
2 at least one downstream port to connect to at least one downstream device.
- 1 18. The computing unit of claim 12, wherein the bus hub further comprises:
2 a hub repeater connected to the upstream port.
- 1 19. The computing unit of claim 12, wherein the bus hub is self powered.
- 1 20. The computing unit of claim 12, wherein the bus hub is bus powered.
- 1 21. A cable comprising:
2 a device power wire;
3 a device ground wire;
4 a computer power wire;
5 a computer ground wire; and
6 a plurality of signal wires.
- 1 22. The cable of claim 21, wherein the cable further comprises:
2 an upstream plug to connect to both an upstream bus receptacle and a power
3 receptacle, wherein the power receptacle draws electric power from the computer
4 power wire.

1 23. The cable of claim 21, further comprising:
2 a downstream plug to electrically connect to both a downstream bus receptacle
3 and a power receptacle, wherein the power receptacle is to supply electric power to
4 the computer power wire, and wherein the downstream bus receptacle is connect to
5 the device power wire, the device ground wire, and the plurality of signal wires.

1 24. The cable of claim 13, wherein the plurality of signal wires comprises a
2 twisted pair.

1 25. The cable of claim 13, wherein the plurality of signal wires comprises a fiber
2 optic channel.

ABSTRACT

An apparatus, computing unit, and cable for attaching peripheral devices to a computer. A power hub contains both a bus hub and a power supply. The bus hub is capable of attaching peripheral devices to the computer. A cable connects the power
5 hub to a computer. The cable carries both power from the power supply to the computer and data signals between the computer and the power hub.

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